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# In the United States Patent and Trademark Office

~~Appn~~ Number: 09/342,280  
~~Appn~~. Filed: June 29, 1999  
~~Applicant~~(s): Stephen M. Heiman and Martin J. Dowling  
~~Appn~~. Title: Interactive Sports Timer with Audio output  
~~Examiner~~/GAU: Jeanne-Marguerite Goodwin / 2859

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MAY 27 2003

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#14/Response

R. Ly

5/29/03

Mailed:

May 21, 2003

At:

Exton, PA

Assistant Commissioner for Patents

Washington, District of Columbia 20231

Madam:

In response to the office Letter mailed February 27, 2003, the applicants respectfully submit the following remarks:

Applicants address objections under 35 USC 103(a) in the following paragraphs.

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Objections to claims 30-39 as being unpatentable over Martin in combination with Davis are Overcome.

## The Present Invention is Distinct from Martin [6,012,995]

Martin teaches a scorekeeping device. The present invention is an audible timekeeping device. The objects of the inventions are totally different, as are the technical approaches. In fact, the two inventions are completely disjoint: the present invention never announces the score; the Martin invention never announces time.

## The Present Invention is Distinct from Davis [5,646,911]

The present invention communicates time information by means of audible announcements so that all players in a multi-player game are simultaneously informed of key time and game events. It is able to do this by dividing the system into base unit and